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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/858,025	05/15/2001	Kevin Collins	10006733-1	2472

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Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER

VU, THONG H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/858,025

Applicant(s)

COLLINS, KEVIN

Examiner

Thong H Vu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

1. Claims 1-22 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 11/22/-04 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-17-19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pletl et al [Pletl 5,920,731].

4. As per claim 1, Pletl discloses a method for centrally managing a number of devices on a network, comprising:

determining whether a device interface for each of said number of devices conforms with a standard interface [Pletl, a detection circuit detects the interface, col 3 lines 35-47 et seq; standard interface, col 6 lines 4-18; col 17 lines 48-50];

translating said device interface to conform with said standard interface when said device interface is nonconforming [Pletl, converts the TTL-level signals, col 6 lines 44-57; distinguishing the different operation mode between PCMCIA interface and non-PCMCIA interface, col 7 lines 12 et seq]; and

managing said number of devices according to said standard interface [Pletl, additional host may be added, col 10 lines 33-43].

5. As per claim 2, Pletl discloses discovering said number of devices on said network [Pletl, a detection circuit detects the interface, col 3 lines 35-47 et seq].

6. As per claim 3, Pletl discloses a) obtaining network data for said number of devices [Pletl, additional host may be added, col 10 lines 33-43]; and b) identifying said number of devices on said network based on said obtained network data [Pletl, a detection circuit detects the interface, col 3 lines 35-47 et seq].

7. As per claim 4, Pletl discloses managing said number of devices comprises monitoring said number of devices for an event [Pletl, a detection circuit detects the interface, col 3 lines 35-47 et seq].

8. As per claim 5, Pletl discloses monitoring said number of devices for an event [Pletl, a detection circuit detects the interface, col 3 lines 35-47 et seq] comprises:
a) receiving a device trap representing said event from at least one of said number of devices; and b) notifying an administrator of said event in response to receiving said device trap as inherent features of detection circuit.

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9. As per claim 6, Pletl discloses obtaining attributes for at least one of said number of devices as inherent features of additional hosts.

10. As per claim 7, Pletl discloses managing said number of devices further comprises changing said attributes for said at least one device as inherent features of additional hosts.

11. As per claim 8, Pletl discloses translating comprises reading said nonconforming device interface [Pletl, converts the TTL-level signals, col 6 lines 44-57; distinguishing the different operation mode between PCMCIA interface and non-PCMCIA interface, col 7 lines 12 et seq].

12. Claims 19-22 contain the similar limitations set forth of claims 1-8 respectively. Therefore, claims 19-22 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claims 1-8.

13. Claim 9 contains the similar limitations set forth of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claim 1.

14. As per claim 10, Pletl discloses said program code for managing is embodied at least in part in a network management application [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

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15. As per claim 11, Pletl discloses program code for discovering said number of devices on said network [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

As per claim 12, Pletl discloses a graphical user interface (GUI) for user management of said number of devices as inherent feature of electronic coding.

16. As per claim 13, Pletl discloses program code for receiving a device trap from at least one of said number of devices as inherent feature of detection circuit [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

17. As per claim 14, Pletl-Aditham disclose program code for notifying an administrator when a device trap is received from at least one of said number of devices as inherent feature of detection circuit [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

18. As per claim 15, Pletl-Aditham disclose program code for obtaining attributes for at least one of said number of devices [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

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19. As per claim 16, Pletl-Aditham disclose said attributes include at least an indicator of the health of said at least one of said number of devices [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

20. As per claim 17, Pletl-Aditham disclose program code for changing at least one attribute of said at least one of said number of devices [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Pletl et al [Pletl 5,920,731] in view of Kennedy et al [Kennedy, 6,298,391 B1].

21. As per claim 18, Pletl-Aditham disclose program code for reading said nonconforming device interface [Pletl, a PC card includes detection circuits, i.e.: code, to detect interface, col 3 lines 35-47; non-PCMCIA device, col 7 lines 12-20]; and program code for cross-referencing at least part of said nonconforming device interface with said standard interface [Pletl, distinguishing the different operation mode between PCMCIA interface and non-PCMCIA interface, col 7 lines 12 et seq]

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However Pletl does not detail based on said translation library. A skilled artisan would have motivation to implement the detecting process between PCMCIA standard interface and nonconforming interface.

In the same endeavor, Kennedy discloses Remote procedure calling with marshaling and unmarshaling (i.e.: monitoring) of arbitrary non-conformant pointer sizes wherein the RPC channel using COM library [Kennedy, col 7 lines 47-57].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate technique of using the library that encapsulates details of the process or network transport as taught by Kennedy into the Pletl's apparatus in order to utilize the detection circuit. Doing so would provide a maximize code retention, minimize design changes on the system using the standard interface and non-conforming interface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Thong Vu, whose telephone number is (571)-272-3904. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00AM- 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Jack Harvey*, can be reached at (571) 272-3896. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval IPAIRI system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thong Vu
Patent Examiner
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